

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND INFORMATIONAL HEARING AND INTENT TO ISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0066851-01-0

Permittee: Draves Dairy, LLC 6036 State Road 80, Highland, WI, 53543

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Draves Dairy, LLC 6036 State Road 80, Highland, WI, 53543

Receiving Water And Location: Surface water and groundwater within the Sixmile Branch and tributaries to the Blue River in the Blue River Watershed and Morrey Creek in the City of Spring Green-Wisconsin River Watershed

Brief Facility Description : Draves Dairy is a Concentrated Feeding Operation (CAFO) that is owned and operated in partnership by Mike, Sheila, Jacob, and Joshua Draves. Since the size of this operation exceeded 1,000 animal units as defined in Ch. NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code, an application was required for issuance of a Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permit. Draves Dairy, LLC has submitted the required complete permit application, engineering evaluations, Nutrient Management Plan (NMP), and other information to the Department. The proposed operating permit will have a duration of approximately five years with a proposed expiration date of December 31, 2026. This will be the first WPDES permit issuance for the facility, or for the owners.

The Dairy had a herd size of 975 mixed animal units at the beginning of the WPDES permit application process and has a planned herd size of 1440 mixed animal units by the end of 2022. The operation is located on a single site in the town of Highland. The production area includes a milking parlor, calf hutch area, six roofed animal confinement barns, 3 freestall barns, an existing manure storage facility, one newly constructed waste storage facility, a new waste storage facility under construction, a planned solid stacking area, and a feed storage area.

Requirements are included in the operation's proposed permit for the waste storage structures and feed storage area. Further evaluation and possible upgrades may be necessary for the existing waste storage facility and calf hutch area. Upgrades are planned for the feed storage area and an associated runoff collection system, and requirements to document the completion of the construction of the two reviewed and approved liquid waste storage facilities and one reviewed and approved solid waste storage area are included in the proposed permit. Operational and built interim runoff control practices will be built and maintained until systems are upgraded as indicated by the proposed permit. Draves Dairy, LLC currently has a total of 1,264 acres (603 owned and 661 rented) and 1,236 acres are available for land application of manure and process wastewater.

The Department has tentatively decided that the above specified WPDES permit should be issued.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Claire O'Connell, 1500 N Johns St, Dodgeville, WI, 53533, (608) 963-1463, Claire.OConnell@wisconsin.gov

Informational Hearing Date, Time, and Location:

January 25th, 2022, 1:00pm, Virtual Hearing using Zoom. If you want to attend the hearing, please fill out the registration form at the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88066328614>

Contact Claire O'Connell before January 25th, 2022 if you would like to attend the hearing and need help registering or do not have access to the internet.

The Department of Natural Resources, pursuant to Section 283.49, Wisconsin Statutes, has scheduled a public informational hearing for the purpose of giving all interested persons an opportunity to make a statement with respect to the proposed permit action, the terms of the nutrient management plan, and the application for this operation.

The hearing officer will conduct the hearing in an orderly fashion and will use procedures specified in Subchapter II of ch. NR 203, Wis. Adm. Code, necessary to insure broad public participation in the hearing.

The hearing officer will open the hearing and make a concise statement of the scope and purpose of the hearing and shall state what procedures will be used during the course of the hearing. The hearing officer shall explain the method of notification of the final decision to grant or deny the permit and the methods by which the decision may be reviewed in a public adjudicatory hearing.

The hearing officer may place limits on individual oral statements to insure an opportunity for all persons present to make statements in a reasonable period of time and to prevent undue repetition. The hearing officer may also limit the number of representatives making oral statements on behalf of any person or group.

Informational and clarifying questions and oral statements shall be directed through the hearing officer. Cross-examination shall not be allowed.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, the terms of the nutrient management plan, or the application, are invited to do so by attending the public hearing or by submitting any comments or objections in writing to the Department of Natural Resources, at the above named permit drafter's address. All comments or suggestions received from members of the public no later than 7 days following the date of this public hearing will be used, along with other information on file and testimony presented at the hearing, in making a final determination. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the Department's final decision regarding permit coverage. Where designated as a reviewable surface water discharge permit, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is allowed up to 90 days to submit comments or objections regarding this permit determination.

Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit and fact sheet (if required), the operation's nutrient management plan and application may be inspected and copied at the permit drafter's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter at (608) 963-1463 or by writing to the Department. Reasonable costs (15 cents per page for copies and 7 cents per page for scanning) will be charged for information in the file other than the public notice and fact sheet. Permit information is also available on the internet at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PublicNotices.html>. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.

NAME OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Dodgeville Chronicle

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: 106 W Merrimac St. Dodgeville, WI 53533

Date Notice Issued: December 23, 2021